



State of Maryland Behavioral Health Advisory Council

Larry Hogan, Governor – Boyd K. Rutherford, Lt. Governor – Robert R. Neall, Secretary, MDH

THE MARYLAND BEHAVIORAL HEALTH ADVISORY COUNCIL

Minutes

January 16, 2018

Maryland Behavioral Health Advisory Council Members Present:

Barbara L. Allen, Robert Anderson for Michael Ito, Barbara J. Bazron, Dori S. Bishop (**by phone**), Karyn M. Black (**by phone**), Lori Brewster (**by phone**), Mary Bunch, Kenneth Collins (**by phone**), Jan A. Desper Peters, Allysa Dittmar, Lillian Donnard, Catherine Drake, Michele Eberle, Stevanne Ellis, Kate Farinholt (**by phone**), Robert Findling (**by phone**), Bill Frank, Ann Geddes, Lauren Grimes, Elaine Hall, Shannon Hall, Carlos Hardy, Dayna Harris, The Hon. George Lipman, Dennis L. McDowell, Shannett Mills for Brandi Stocksdale, Randall S. Nero for Stephen T. Moyer, Luciene Parsley, Mary Pizzo, Charles Reifsnider, Keith Richardson (**by phone**), Catherine Simmons-Jones (**by phone**), Jeffrey Sternlicht, Tracey Webb, Anita Wells, John Winslow

Maryland Behavioral Health Advisory Council Members Absent:

Makeitha Abdulbarr, The Hon. Addie Eckardt, Christina Halpin, Virginia Harrison, The Hon. Antonio Hayes Japp Haynes, IV, James Hedrick, Sylvia Lawson, Sharon M. Lipford, Theresa Lord, Dan Martin, Jonathan Martin, The Hon. Dana Moylan Wright, Kathleen O'Brien, Clay Stamp, Al Zachik

Behavioral Health Administration (BHA) Staff Present:

Kimberly M. Cuthrell, Marian Bland, Richard Ortega, Cynthia Petion, Hilary Phillips, Thomas Merrick, James Yoe, Sarah Reiman, Judith Leiman, Tsegereda Assebe, Michele Fleming, John Robison, Richard Ortega, Darren McGregor, David Galloway, Eleanor Dayhoff Brannigan, Lori Mannino, Nicolle Birckhead, Greta Carter

c/o Behavioral Health Administration

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Guests and Others:

Mary Drexler, Center of Excellence on Problem Gambling;
Julia Jerscheid, Mid-Shore Consumer Advocate;
Cathy Howard, Anne Arundel County Health Department, Behavioral Health;
Irnande Altema, Maryland Health Association of Maryland;
Jessica Honke, The National Alliance on Mental Illness of Maryland
Sharon MacDougall, Advocate, Own Our Own of Maryland, Inc.;
Joy Ashcraft, Building Healthy Military Communities;
Theresa Collins, Howard County Police;
Jacqueline Pettis, Beacon Health Options;
Lisa Kugler, Beacon Health Options **(by phone)**;
Casey Saylor, On Our Own of Maryland;
Howard Ashkin, Maryland Association for the Treatment of Opioid Dependence (MATOD);
Phillip Lubitz, **(by phone)**;
Victoria Scofield, Stepping Stones Recovery Houses;
Laura Mueller, WIN Team, LLC;
Travis Crow, BHMC
Crista Taylor, Behavioral Health System Baltimore, **(by phone)**

WELCOME

Co-chair Barbara Allen opened the meeting and welcomed all members and guests. Dan Martin is not in attendance today as he is in Annapolis presenting the Crisis Plan approved by the Council in November. The minutes of the November 21, 2017 meeting were reviewed and approved. The Minutes will be posted on the Behavioral Health Administration's (BHA) website at: <https://bha.health.maryland.gov/Pages/Maryland-Behavioral-Health-Advisory-Council.aspx>

Barbara Allen commemorated today's date which would have been her son James's 50th birthday. He passed away at the age of 35 due to the disease of addiction. At that time, she was unaware of all the efforts undertaken to address behavioral health issues. Now as she travels the State, she hears that "nothing is being done." Barbara went on to say this is "not true," and thanked all for the work that is being done to promote behavioral health whether in a paid position or in advocacy. "What you do, matters".

People joining by phone introduced themselves.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Membership updates: New members Michele Eberle, Lillian Donnard, and Bill Frank were welcomed.

There will be a behavioral health rally on Lawyer's Mall on January 22, 2018 followed by an advocacy day. More information can be found on the Mental Health Association and NAMI's websites.

THE DIRECTOR'S REPORT - Barbara J. Bazron, Ph.D., Deputy Secretary, Behavioral Health/Executive Director, Behavioral Health Administration

Dr. Bazron shared with the council the new organizational structure for the Maryland Department of Health (MDH). As of January 9, 2018, Robert Neall is the new Secretary of Health. He comes to us with a wealth of health care experience. The former Secretary, Dennis Schrader, is now the Chief Operating Officer as well as the Medicaid Director. This includes managing the Medicaid portfolio and all of the regulatory programs which includes all of the boards and commissions. The new organizational chart was provided to members.

In addition, an Enterprise Shared Services function and model has been developed which crosses all of the "Business Units". This will impact how we operate. This includes Finance, Budget & Capital, Human Resources, IT, Procurement and HCFA. Our administration remains the same.

Our first hearing in Annapolis is today and involves the work we are doing around Opioids.

We allocated 2 million dollars for a Substance Abuse Crisis Stabilization Center in Baltimore City, which will be administered by Tuerk House. This will be up and running by April and we will keep you posted on updates.

We have pushed to increase the number of persons with lived experience to be more involved in our system. They are called Peer Recovery Support Specialists. We have developed a common

job description with a recommended salary that we hope will be used across the state to reduce confusion around their roles. When I started at BHA we had 102 Peer Support Recovery Specialists. We now have 226. We have Peers working in 10 hospital Emergency Departments and 5 more hospitals coming on board.

SAMSHA has indicated that they will fund year two of the CURES Act. We will be eligible for another 10 million dollars.

We are making major success in terms of our forensic bed capacity and ability to get individuals into beds sooner. Our cycle time (when we receive an order for placement to the time of placement) for all hospitals is just over 7 days -which is a major improvement.

Our Case Management system for the 8-507 process is moving along, which will give judges feedback to know where individuals are in the process. We have negotiated agreements with providers. A council member noted that rural areas have minimal to no 8-507 providers. The 8-507 process refers to individuals with substance use disorders who have been court ordered to treatment. Clay Stamp heads the State Opioid Operations Command Center (OOCC).

The Crisis Services' grant in Baltimore City includes the Baltimore City Crisis Response Center which will be involved in providing case management services to those discharging from the center.

We are also looking at developing a crisis walk- in center.

PRESENTATION – Behavioral Crisis at the Workplace - Richard Ortega, Ph.D., Office of Forensic Services, Behavioral Health Administration

Dr. Ortega discussed the importance of performing a risk analysis of your physical workspace, rehearsing a plan of action, allowing agitated individuals personal space, respecting fear, and supporting your co-workers. Remember the Three D's (Delay, Distract, Divert) the full power point is attached.

Spring Grove Campus police can be reached at extension 7555

THE BEHAVIORAL HEALTH COUNCIL (BHAC) COMMITTEE ACTIVITY UPDATES

Cultural and Linguistic Competency Committee - Co-Chair: Allysa Dittmar

- No updates

Criminal Justice/Forensics Committee – Co-Chairs: Kathleen O’Brien and George Lipman

- The Committee will meet briefly today, to go over next steps.

Planning Committee – Co-Chairs: Doris Bishop and Dennis McDowell

- The committee will meet today and review mental health and substance use block grant funding allocations.
- All are welcome to join our Committee.

Prevention Committee – Co Chair: Sharon Lipford

- The Committee is on hiatus to reconfigure itself, until further notice.

Lifespan Committee I – Co-Chairs: Ann Geddes and Mary Bunch

- The Committee will continue conversation about residential treatment for mental health and substance use as well as crisis services for children and adolescents.

Lifespan Committee II – Co-Chairs: Barbara Allen and John Winslow

- John Winslow thanked Barbara Allen for heightening our awareness on substance use and the purpose of why we are doing the work that we do.
- John shared with the group that on Sunday, he will be celebrating forty-two years of recovery. He attributed his recovery to his treatment experiences and post treatment recovery support services.
- The Committee wants to shift the emphasis of Lifespan II Committee over to recovery support services.
- Our Committee will propose to the Executive Committee of the Council to change the name of the Committee to Recovery Support Services.

COUNCIL BUSINESS – CO-CHAIR: BARBARA ALLEN
Crisis Services Strategic Plan

Barbara Allen informed the Council that the Crisis Services Strategic Plan has been approved and sent to the Legislature. There will be a hearing this afternoon to discuss this in more detail with the House and Government Operations Committee.

The next Advisory Council Meeting is on March 20, 2018 at 9:30 am in the lower level conference room of the Dix Building.

The meeting was adjourned.